

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 7554

Investigation into Cooperative Electric Utilities')
Accounting Treatment for Member)
Contributions in Aid of Construction for Line)
Extensions)

Order entered: 10/16/2009

PREHEARING CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM

On October 1, 2009, I convened a prehearing conference in this proceeding. The following persons entered appearances: Geoffrey Commons, Esq., for the Vermont Department of Public Service ("DPS"); John Randall Pratt for the Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("VEC"); and Joshua R. Diamond, Esq., of Diamond & Robinson, P.C., for Washington Electric Cooperative, Inc.

At the prehearing conference, the parties proposed, and I accepted, the following schedule:

October 1, 2009 – January 1, 2010	All parties to conduct rolling informal and/or formal discovery; two-week turnaround for responses
October 28, 2009	Deadline for motions to intervene ¹
November 6, 2009	Deadline for responses to motions to intervene
February 12, 2010	All parties to prefile testimony
February 18, 2010	Status conference to be held at 1:30 p.m.

At the status conference, parties will discuss the schedule for the remainder of this proceeding.

Also at the prehearing conference, I reminded the parties that the accounting issue that is the subject of this proceeding originally arose in Docket 7488.² I informed WEC that Board staff

1. The parties did not discuss a deadline for the filing of motions to intervene or the filing of responses to any such motions at the prehearing conference. I hereby establish dates for these items.

2. Docket 7488 was an investigation into a proposed rate increase for VEC.

conducted a workshop on this same issue in Docket 7488 on May 27, 2009. The DPS and VEC participated in this workshop, and a transcript of this workshop is available from Capitol Court Reporters, Inc.

At the prehearing conference, I provided the parties with copies of memoranda dated May 19, 2009, and May 29, 2009, that were issued by the Board in Docket 7488. In these memoranda, the Board asked the parties to that docket to answer various questions related to the issue that is the subject of this proceeding. Some of these questions solicited company-specific factual information designed to provide the context in which this issue will be decided.³ I requested that VEC's and WEC's prefiled testimony in this proceeding include responses to these company-specific questions.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 16th day of October, 2009.

s/Ann Bishop
Ann Bishop
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: October 16, 2009

ATTEST: s/Judith C. Whitney
Deputy Clerk of the Board

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3. For example, the memoranda asked, among other company-specific items: what is the magnitude of line-extension patronage capital that is currently accumulated on VEC's balance sheet, how many customers have paid line-extension patronage capital to VEC since 1973, and has VEC informed customers that they would eventually have their line-extension contributions returned.